

REMARKS

The outstanding non-final Office Action mailed March 15, 2004, (Paper No. 2) has been carefully considered. In response thereto, please enter the following amendments in which claims 1, 2, 9, and 17 are amended; and claims 25 - 29 are added. Claims 1 - 29 are now pending in the present application. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims, as amended, are respectfully requested.

Indication of Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant first wishes to express his sincere appreciation for the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in which claims 4, 5, 11, 13, 19, and 21 would be allowable if re-written in independent form to include the subject matter of their base claim and any intermediate claim.

Examiner Interview

Applicant wishes to express his sincere appreciation for the time that Examiner Raymond S. Dean and Examiner Nay Maung spent with Applicant's representative, Mr. Eric M. Ringer, during a telephone conversation on March 31, 2004, regarding the outstanding Office Action. Applicants wish to thank the Examiners for indicating that independent claims 1, 2, 9, 17, and 25 would be allowable over the cited art of record.

Response to 35 U.S.C. §102 Rejection

Claims 1, 2, 6, 8, 9, 10, 14, 17, 18, 22, and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by McGhee et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,658,049). In view of Applicants' amendments, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration.

Independent Claim 1:

As acknowledge in the telephonic conference on March 31, 2004, the cited reference fails to include limitations recited in the claim 1. Specifically, amended claim 1 includes the limitation of "a pulse-shaping filter logically connected to said repeater canceler, said pulse-shaping filter receives the second signal and transmits a third signal, the third signal in compliance with xDSL protocol." Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

Independent Claim 2

Amended claim 2 includes the limitation of "a power feed network, wherein said power feed network communicate signals between said first endpoint and said second endpoint." As acknowledge in the telephonic conference on March 31, 2004, the cited reference fails to include this limitation, and therefore, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

Independent Claim 9

Amended claim 9 includes the limitations of "providing a first and second communication path in said repeater ... wherein said data signal is carried through said repeater in said first communication path ... wherein the coupled signals are caused by said second

communication path.” As acknowledge in the telephonic conference on March 31, 2004, the cited reference fails to include these limitations, and therefore, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

Independent Claim 17

Amended claim 17 includes the limitations of:

means for providing a first communication path through said repeater, wherein said first communication path carries said amplified data signal;
means for providing a second communication path through said repeater;
means for removing coupled signal from said amplified data signal, wherein said coupled signals are caused by said second communication path means.

As acknowledge in the telephonic conference on March 31, 2004, the cited reference fails to include these limitations, and therefore, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

Response to 35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection

Dependent claims 3, 12, and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over McGhee et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,658,049) in view of Erreygers (U.S. Patent No. 6,236,664), and dependent claims 7, 15, 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over McGhee et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,658,049) in view of Watkinson (U.S. Application No. 2002/0191552 A1). Applicants respectfully submit that these rejections are moot. Dependent claims 3-8, 10-16, and 18-24 are believed to be allowable for at least the reason that these claims depend from allowable independent claims 2, 9, and 17, respectively. In re Fine, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 U.S.P.Q.2d 1596, 1600 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

New Claims

Claims 25-29 have been newly added to further define and/or clarify the scope of the invention.

Independent claim 25 claims a signal repeater that receives a signal, and the signal repeater includes a first processor, a second processor, an echo canceler, and a repeater canceler. The first processor includes a first receive communication path and a first transmit communication path, and the second processor includes a second receive communication path and a second transmit communication path. The echo canceler is connected to the second receive communication path and the second transmit path. The echo canceler receives a signal carried through the second transmit communication path and generates an echo cancellation signal for canceling an echo in the second receive communication path. The repeater canceler is connected to the first receive communication path, and the repeater canceler receives a reference signal related to the signal received by the signal repeater and generates a crosstalk cancellation signal for canceling in the first receive communication path a crosstalk signal introduced by transmitting the signal from the signal repeater. Applicants respectfully submit that the cited art of record fails to disclose a signal repeater having the limitations of claim 25. Claims 26 – 29 depend from claim 25, and therefore, they include the limitations of claim 25.

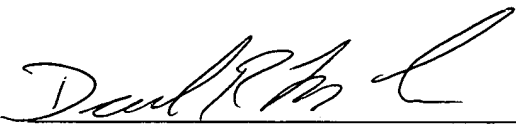
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all pending claims are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

AUTHORIZATION TO DEBIT ACCOUNT

It is believed that no extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to deposit account no. 20-0778.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Daniel R. McClure
Registration No. 38,962

Thomas, Kayden, Horstemeyer & Risley, LLP
100 Galleria Pkwy, NW
Suite 1750
Atlanta, GA 30339
770-933-9500